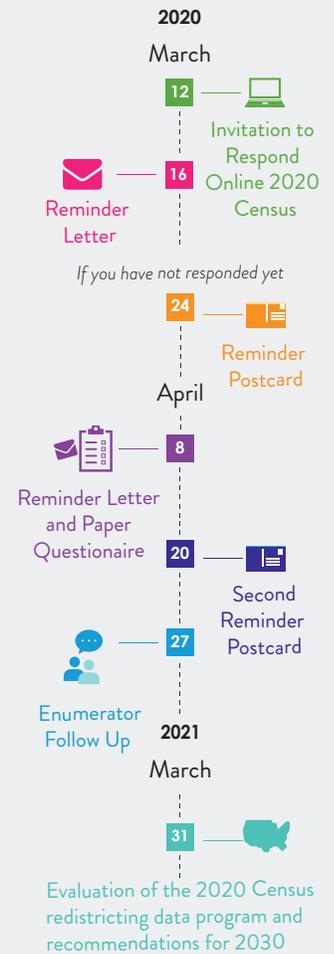


# What You Need to Know About the 2020 Census in Prince George's County

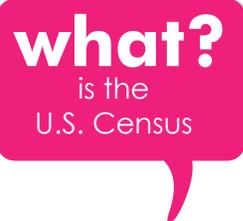
The 2020 Census directly impacts how much federal funding the State of Maryland will receive over the next decade. It is estimated that the state of Maryland will receive \$16,398,153,415 from 55 federal programs for resources such as schools, hospitals, and infrastructure. Failure to obtain a complete and accurate count in the 2020 Census may lead to Maryland losing millions of dollars in funding for programs that benefit Prince George's County residents. People of color, low-income populations, young children, immigrants, and undocumented residents are among the groups most likely to be undercounted. Ensuring services for Prince George's County residents in the future requires that we work to obtain an accurate Census count.

The 2020 Census will include two phases: self-response and non-response follow-up. Self-response is the most accurate way to complete the count and ensure that Census field representatives do not visit Prince George's County households. However, many households are less likely to complete the self-response because of factors such as distrust of government, complex home and living arrangements, and changes in technology that pose challenges for the self-response component. Boosting self-response numbers for the 2020 Census is the most effective way to ensure over \$800 billion (according to the George Washington University School of Public Policy) in federal funding is fairly distributed across the entire U.S. population, allowing residents to thrive, live, learn, and grow.

## 2020 Census Timeline

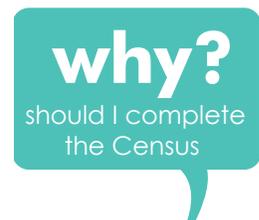


The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States every ten years. This information is used by the federal government to allocate resources across the country. Maryland can receive close to \$16,398,153,415 in federal dollars to improve schools, transportation, parks, government assistance programs, emergency assistance, etc. Business also use this information to inform their decisions and bring more growth and commerce.



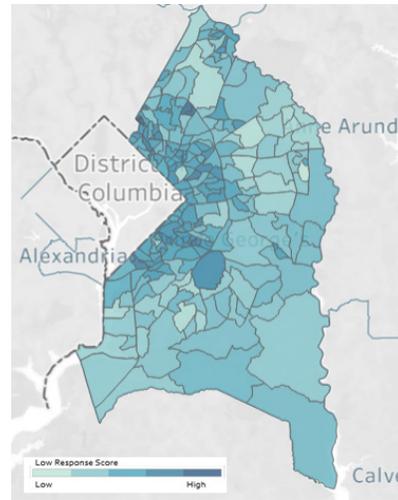
- Educate your staff/volunteers/community members about the Census so they can be a resource for clients/consumers and other community members – Visit [Prince George's County Planning Department Complete Count Committee](#).
- Convene workshops and webinars for philanthropic organizations, faith groups, parent groups, and community-based organizations to share resources and information and receive important updates.
- Engage trusted messengers in activities such as phone banking, public service announcements, social media messaging, and door-to-door canvassing to ensure we get the word out and increase the 2020 Census response rate.
- Provide opportunities in March and April 2020 for trusted community helpers at accessible neighborhood sites to offer internet access and assistance completing the form.

The Census is only 10 or 11 questions. Completing the Census will ensure that Prince George's is eligible for its fair share of federal funding over the next 10 years. Completing the Census will ensure that Prince George's County receives proper political representation at the state and federal levels.



## Data on Census Tracts and Risk of Undercount in Prince George's County

In 2010, Prince George's County had the largest undercount of any county in Maryland. The non-return mail rate in the state of Maryland was 20 percent, over 1 million people. Eleven census tracts in Prince George's County had low-response scores between 40 and 50 percent; more than any other county in Maryland. Prince George's County is 63 percent African American, 16 percent Hispanic, and 14 percent White. The undercount in 2010 impacted the County's political representation at the federal and state level and significantly compromised federal funding. The County lost funding for Women Infant and Children (WIC), Section 8 housing subsidies, recreation centers and parks, schools, roads and other programs.



Data source: [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov) – Census tracts were obtained from the Planning Database that uses selected Census and 2012-2016 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates and the 2010 Census Mail Return Rate for each block group and tract. Last updated June 20, 2018.

Communities most at risk of an undercount include the Glendale area near Glendale Elementary School close to Palmer Park and Reid Temple AME Church (Census Tract 8004.13) and the Harvest Temple Church of God (Census tract 8021.06). Prince George's County joined the NAACP in filing a lawsuit claiming that inadequate funding for the proposed 2020 Census will result in undercounting communities of color. This will disproportionately impact Prince George's County, jeopardizing resources that are needed to adequately address the needs of the community and support growth. It is critical to engage trusted messengers and conduct extensive outreach throughout the County to ensure that communities receive the resources needed to address inequities and support development in Prince George's County.

## Frequently Asked Questions



**How can I get help completing the Census or accessing the internet?**

Once residents receive an invitation to complete the 2020 Census in the mail or online, there will be a number to call for assistance to complete the form.

**What about confidentiality?**

All Census responses are protected under Title 13 of the U.S. Code. Under this law, the Census Bureau is required to keep respondent information confidential. The Bureau is prohibited from sharing respondents' personal information with immigration enforcement agencies, like ICE, or law enforcement agencies, like the FBI or police. The law also prohibits the use of Census data to determine or deny eligibility for government benefits. The results from any Census or Census-related survey are reported in aggregate statistical format only.

**What happens if I don't complete the 2020 Census?**

You will receive several follow-up mailings asking you to complete the Census form. Not completing the Census means Census workers will visit your residence because you are required by law to participate. If you cannot be reached, a Census worker may contact your neighbors for information about your family size.

**Will the Census be in my language?**

In 2020, the paper form will be available in English and Spanish. People may respond to the Census online and by phone in 13 languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese, Arabic, French, Haitian Creole, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese, and Tagalog). The Census Bureau will also have a language guide for 59 languages.